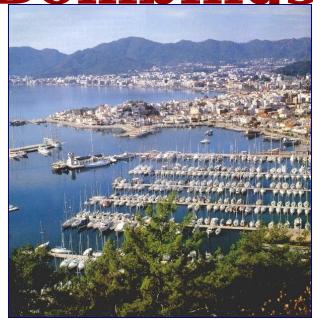


# Turkish Coastal Bombings



August 25-28, 2006





## **Attack Overview**

- August 25
  - Adana
  - Two Coordinated low level blasts
  - Bank and office building targeted
- August 27
  - Istanbul
  - Low-level package bomb
  - Near school
  - One of many recent low-level attacks
- August 28
  - Marmaris
  - Three coordinated attacks
  - Tourism industry targeted
- August 28
  - Antalya
  - Shopping center housing Turkish restaurants in popular tourism city targeted









## Attack Overview (continued)

- At least 40 injured, ten of whom were British citizens
- Three deaths
- Kurdistan Freedom Hawks/Falcons claim responsibility for Marmaris minibus attack
- Authorities suspect Kurdistan Worker's Party (PKK)\* was responsible
- \*PKK is also known as Kongra Gel
- \*The Turkish National Police do not distinguish between Kongra Gel or the Kurdistan Freedom Hawks/Falcons and refer to them collectively as PKK





## August 25

#### Adana

- First explosion, 4:30 pm in Kucuksaat area in front of bank
- Second explosion, 4:35 pm in front of office building
- Both in Adana's Old Town area
- Four injuries, shattered glass and other minor building damage
- No claims of responsibility
- Second set of coordinated explosions in one month
  - August 4, two coordinated low-level explosions target banks
  - Kurdistan Freedom Hawks/Falcons (TAK) claimed responsibility







## August 27

- Istanbul
  - Package bomb
  - Placed near school in Bagcilar District on Istanbul's European side
  - Six injuries
  - No claims of responsibility
  - No indicated relation to Adana or Marmaris attacks





#### Council

## Other recent Istanbul

- attas:25 pm: Small sound bomb detonated in Sultanahmet district of Istanbul in a park between the Blue Mosque and Hagia Sophia, injuring three Turks
  - **August 15**, N**oon:** Small sound bomb detonated in same district near the Blue Mosque, no injuries
  - August 11: Small explosive placed in garbage can in front of internet café in Kumkapi district of Istanbul, five persons injured
  - Kurdish terrorists suspected in all of these attacks









# August 28

#### Marmaris

- Three coordinated explosions
- TAK claims responsibility
  - TAK Website warns "Turkey is not a safe country, tourists should not come to Turkey."
- Popular tourist resort, currently accommodating an estimated 14,000 tourists
- Peak tourism season

#### First explosion

- At midnight, an explosive placed under a seat of a tourist minibus transporting British and Turkish citizens on busy Kemal Seyfettin Boulevard detonated
- 15-21 injured (varying press reports)
- British travel service company reported five clients among injured







## August 28 (continued)

#### Second and third explosions

- Nearly simulateous attacks (press reports vary between 12:15 and 12:45 am)
- Bombs placed in garbage cans on Ataturk Boulevard near Harbor, six injured
  - Other sources report the explosion may have been near a Turkish Airlines Office
- Bomb placed near residential compound in Siteler neighborhood, no injuries





August 28 (continued)

#### Antalya

- At 5:00 pm, bomb detonated in front of shopping center housing Turkish restaurants in city center
- Three killed and at least fifteen injured, including two Russian citizens
- Popular tourist resort attracted 7.2 million tourists in 2005

#### Past attacks

- Sept 19, 2005: Bomb on bus traveling between Antalya and Adana exploded, killing two and injuring ten
- August 2005: Four bombs planted in garbage cans exploded









# Significance for U.S.

Particular estable that Tak/PKK targets and modus operandi

- Frequently responsible for low-level terrorism attacks against tourism industry
- Bombs placed in garbage cans on busy streets, in front of commercial or government buildings in resort areas and major cities
- "Soft targets" hit in important areas
- Responsibility claimed for Marmaris minibus bombing
- TAK
  - Warned that tourism industry is be a legitimate target in May 2005 and April 2006
  - Claimed responsibility for numerous low-level attacks in coastal tourist cities May 2005-August 2006





attacks

# Significance for U.S. Private Sector Possible new trend of coordinated

- First set of August attacks in Adana thought to be timed so that first responders to initial explosion would be injured in second
- Marmaris, was not coordinated to injure first responders, but combined typical Kurdish terrorist modus operandi in consecutive attacks
  - Targeted soft targets in popular tourist cities
  - Used garbage can bombs
  - Explosives were placed in front of building





## Police Response

- Marmaris
  - Immediate police check points

- Municipal workers removed garbage cans from

main streets

- All cities
  - Investigations underway





### For More Information

- Additional information on Kurdish, Islamist and left-wing terrorism in Turkey can be found at:
  - U.S. Government Information
    - OSAC's Eastern Europe Coordinator: ph (571) 345-2230, kogutle@state.gov
    - OSAC's Turkey Country Page
    - State Department's Consular Information Sheet
  - News Sources
    - MIPT Terrorism Knowledge Database: www.tkb.org
    - Zaman.com: www.zaman.com

